REPRODUCTION

REP-017

IMPROVEMENT OF REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE OF GILTS IN ONE WEEK BATCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM BY SYNCHRONISATION OF OESTRUS

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Introduction

Optimal gilt management decreases variation within weekly service numbers and synchronisation of gilts by altrenogest (Altresyn®) was proven effective tool. Aim of our study was to evaluate the effect of synchronisation by altrenogest on reproductive parameters and total number of piglets born per group.

Material and Method

The reproductive performance of 50 randomly selected cycling gilts synchronised by altrenogest (group A) was compared with control group of gilts of same size (group B). First oestrus was confirmed by the back-pressure test in the presence of boar. Both groups of gilts were inseminated on their 2nd oestrus. The study was performed on the large scale farm (4000 sows) in Italy, practising one week batch management system. Following parameters were evaluated: Insemination rate (IR), pregnancy rate (PR), farrowing rate (FR) and total number of piglets born per group (TNBP).

Results

All followed reproductive parameters were numerically better in group of synchronised gilts (A). IR was better in group A (98% vs. 94 %); (P= 0.8841). PR was higher in synchronised gilts (98% vs. 91%); (P= 0.8155) as well as farrowing rate (81.60% vs. 72.3%) (P=0.4246). TNBP was greater in group A, brings 47 piglets more per synchronised group of gilts (518 and 471 piglets). Size of the litter did not differ statistically (P=0.8438).

Discussion and Conclusion

Altrenogest synchronisation was an effective tool to improve reproductive parameters and increase final piglet's production. This study showed that the effective gilt management can optimise utilisation of expensive farrowing recourses.